

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A method is described that can be used to regulate the usage of resources in a network system. A software tool can be used to regulate access to a system resource. The preferred method uses a software tool to enforce voluntary restraint on the uses of resources by competing processes. Further, the software tool can be used to request additional usage time for more important or sensitive processes requesting a specific resource. The preferred method can be used with a general computing environment or in an embedded system.

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